

## Town Council Meeting: 09 October 2006



Town of Garrett Park  
PO Box 84  
4600 Waverly Avenue  
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council  
Garrett Park Town Hall  
10814 Kenilworth Avenue  
Garrett Park, MD 20896

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### MINUTES

**Call to Order:** Mayor Shawaker called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Councilmembers Altar, Benjamin, Irons, Soltan, and Wegner. Also present was Administrator Pratt, Margaret Soltan of the *Garrett Park Bugle*, and resident Barbara Shidler.

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as posted without objection.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Shawaker announced the road closures for the Garrett Park Elementary School (GPES) Halloween parade, noted that she had made a presentation to the GPES second grade, and informed the Council that she was attending the MML Fall Conference in Annapolis.

#### Councilmember's Reports

- Councilmember Benjamin updated the Council on the progress of the on Capital Inventory and Program Project, going over the selection process and reporting that VIEW Engineering of Rockville, MD had been the unanimous choice of himself, the Mayor, and Administrator Pratt. Councilmember Benjamin reported that he had received a number of very positive comments about the work of VIEW Engineering in similar projects and about the project engineer, Larry Johnson, from a number of municipalities.
- Councilmember Soltan briefed the Council on the ongoing work of the Rights of Way Committee. He noted that the committee had only 5 members, and it was probably time to bring in more people. He asked for input from the Council regarding the memo he had circulated. After the Committee had a chance to review any suggestions from Councilmembers it would be appropriate to hold a public meeting. Then the resulting draft of Rights of Way regulations should be referred to the Town Attorney for review before any Council action. There was extended discussion and Councilmember Soltan agreed to take back the various comments to the committee.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilmember Altar **MOVED**

That the minutes of the Council Meeting on 09/11/06 be approved as distributed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Soltan and **PASSED** unanimously.

**Action/Discussion:**

- Preparation of Items for Council Action – Councilmember Benjamin led a discussion of how best to present extensive information on complex issues to the Council. He suggested that the person presenting the issue prepare accurate and meaningful summaries for Councilmembers, to be reviewed by the Mayor, in order to allow for informed decision-making. There was extended discussion of this matter with a general consensus that such summaries would be desirable.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

- Town Administrator Pratt distributed the monthly financial report

**Contract Matter**

- The Council discussed a letter received from the State Highway Administrator relative to the activation of pedestrian lights on Strathmore. It was decided that Councilmember Benjamin should prepare a draft response for the Mayor's signature indicating the Town's position on the issue.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted

[TOWN SEAL]

Edwin Pratt, Jr., Clerk-Treasurer